

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 03257 070922Z

17

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /041 W

----- 025077

R 070800Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4576

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 3257

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, ILO, AF

SUBJ: ILO-NEXT INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE PRESIDENT:  
AFRICAN CANDIDATES

REF: STATE 289045

1. HYDEN DINGISWAYO BANDA IS AN OLD LINE POLITICIAN WITH NO BACKGROUND IN LABOR EITHER AS AN ORGANIZER OR MEMBER. HIS EXPERIENCE IN THE LABOR FIELD HAS BEEN AS MINISTER OF LABOR, FIRST IN 1967-68 AND AGAIN IN 1973 TO THE PRESENT. HE WAS ONE OF THE MORE MILITANT POLITICAL ACTIVISTS PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE AND HIS REPUTATION AS SOMETHING OF A RADICAL FOLLOWED HIM UNTIL THE LATE SIXTIES. AT THAT TIME HE SEEMS TO HAVE MELLOWED A BIT. THIS MAY HAVE HAD TO DO WITH HIS INCREASING PERSONAL WEALTH WHICH CAME TO LIGHT WHEN HE WAS DROPPED FROM HIS POSITION AS MINISTER OF TRANSPORT IN 1971 IN THE WAKE OF A MISAPPROPRIATION SCANDAL.

2. BANDA HAS A REPUTATION FOR BEING WELL ORGANIZED, A GOOD ADMINISTRATOR, AND EXCEPTIONALLY ABLE AS A POLITICAL INFIGHTER. IN HIS TWO STINTS AS MINISTER OF LABOR, HE HAS BEEN GIVEN CREDIT FOR DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF LABOR AS EFFECTIVELY AS HE COULD IN A POLITICAL SYSTEM WHERE LABOR IS SUBORDINATE TO THE ONE LEGAL PARTY.

3. WE SUSPECT THAT IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT BANDA WOULD TEND TO REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE NON-ALIGNED, INCLUDING THE GROUP OF 77. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE HE WOULD HAVE NO HESITATION IN CRACKING DOWN ON THOSE WHO  
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MIGHT TRY TO DISRUPT A MEETING CHAIRED BY HIM. LOW

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, ELECTION CANDIDATES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D760451-0585  
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**Image Path:**  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 289045  
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**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** ILO-NEXT INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE PRESIDENT: AFRICAN CANDIDATES  
**TAGS:** ELAB, XI, ILO  
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